

Celebrating The Life of
Leroy Edwards, Jr.

Sunrise
January 28, 1947

Sunset
April 23, 2017



Reflections of Life

Leroy “Butch” “Red Coat” Edwards Jr. was born January 28, 1947 in McColl, South Carolina to the late LeRoy Sr. and Beatrice (McRae) Edwards. Leroy Jr., was the second oldest of four siblings. Leroy (Butch) transitioned from Life to Glory on Sunday, April 23rd 2017.

Leroy (Butch) began his education in the Paterson School system. Leroy graduated from Eastside High School in Paterson, New Jersey. He went on to further his education at Arts of Drafting, New York, NY. In 1966 Leroy was drafted into the US Army where he was stationed in Fort Knox, KY. He received an honorable discharge.

He loved his family and enjoyed telling his nieces and nephews the stories of the streets. He would allow the children into his room and would tell them education is important and not to be a “Knuckle Head”. The children loved him and enjoyed playing cards with him, letting him help them with their homework, watching television with him. He loved them, he kept all their pictures in his room on the wall, but if they got out of hand he would say to them “Get out of my room until you can act right. I don’t want any knuckle heads in my room”. To family and friends he was known as Butch. He received the nickname (RED COAT) on his first day of High school, as he wore a Red Sports Jacket.

Having accepted Christ at an early age, Butch was baptized at the age of 13 at the Calvary Baptist Church Paterson, New Jersey. Butch also attended Thankful Baptist Church and Canaan Baptist Church as a young man.

Leroy (Butch) is preceded in death by his father, LeRoy Edwards Sr., his mother, Beatrice (McRae) “Ms. Bea” Edwards, two brothers, Stanley Sr. and Donald Edwards.

He leaves to cherish wonderful memories, his one and only sister, Marilyn (Edwards) Brown of Clifton, N.J., one brother-in-law Eugene (Marilyn) Brown Jr., two aunts Mary E. Briggs of Paterson and Cledell Peterkin of Greenville, N.C. and a host of other family members and friends.

Butch never complained about his pain or his condition. He brightened our days with his long street stories. He would joke with his great nephew Devin about the birth day they shared. Before he lost his sight Butch traveled to North Carolina to visit with his nephews Vincent and Eugene III (Ge), Heather (Ge) and his great nieces, Miriah, Mya and Madison who he loved. He would always say “The South is the South and I never want to stay or visit there again”. He enjoyed his last day in the backyard of his sister’s and brother-in-law’s home laughing, talking and eating with the ones he loved most on this earth: Carm, Terrie, TJ, Kevin, Justin, Jaedon, Tianna, brother-in-law Eugene Jr. and of course the one who loved him like no other could his sister Marilyn.

Monday, May 1, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH

535 E. 22nd Street, Paterson, New Jersey

Rev. Barry L. Graham, Pastor

Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Opening Hymn

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Acknowledgements & Reflection of Life

Mother Elizabeth Gray

Remarks

Selection

Words of Comfort

Rev. Barry L. Graham

Recessional

Interment

William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery
Arneytown, New Jersey

To My Brother Butch/Red Coat

If I knew it would be the last time that I'd see you fall asleep, I would tuck you in more tightly and pray the lord, your soul to keep. If I knew it would be the last time that I see you walk out the door, I would give you a hug and kiss and call you back for just one more. If I knew it would be the last time I'd hear your voice saying "Hey" I would video tape each action and word, so I could play them back day after day. If I knew it would be the last time, I could spare an extra minute to stop and say "I love you," instead of assuming you would KNOW I DO. If I knew it would be the last time I would be there to share your day, I'm sure you'll have so many more, so I can let just this one slip away. For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight, and we always get a second chance to make everything just right. There will always be another day to say "Are you alright" But just in case I might be wrong and today is all I get, I'd like to say how much I love you and I hope you are OK.

Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Leroy Edwards, Jr.** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You!

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